

4 April 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Colonel White

SUBJECT : IG Report on ELINT Program

1. Very briefly this report says little progress has been achieved in creating a planned ELINT Program, no clear and authoritative statement of ELINT policy has been issued, the intra-Agency responsibilities defined originally have never been approved or published, and budgetary procedures initially agreed upon have not been adhered to.

2. All of this has resulted in confusion, misunderstanding, and disagreements between Agency elements concerned.

3. The report sort of takes the ELINT Staff Officer to task for making impractical proposals, some of which are in conflict with the basic command prerogatives of the operating components, another which would shift certain ELINT research and development activities to TSS. The report highlights the problems Commo has had to contend with, e.g., crash actions requiring hastily improved equipment, heavy demands of other high priority projects such as [redacted] and AQUATONE.

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4. The report recommends that:

a. The statement on intra-Agency ELINT responsibilities be revised to conform to present organization.

b. ELINT technical support remain the responsibility of Commo.

c. The allocation and expenditure of Agency funds for ELINT be considered as a part of normal Agency and office budgetary planning cycles with the proviso that approval of each project be coordinated with the ELINT Staff Officer.

d. The Original Agency ELINT Program be reviewed and revised to conform to current capabilities.

General Cabell has asked for your comments by 15 April.

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